

House Republican Press Release

October 26, 2005
Press Office: 860-240-8700

Rep. Ruwet Praises DOT Report on Traffic Light at Torrington Post Office



State Rep. Anne L. Ruwet, R-65th, Torrington, said she was happy to see a traffic study from the state Department of Transportation (DOT) showing the clear need for a traffic light on Route 4 (East Elm Street) at the Torrington Post Office.

Rep. Ruwet has been working with the state DOT and local officials to address safety at the intersection, the scene of numerous motor vehicle accidents. Rep. Ruwet noted that voters responding to her 2005 legislative survey identified a traffic light at the Post Office as a critical issue.

“This is positive news for Torrington motorists,” said Rep. Ruwet. “Entering and exiting the Post Office has proven to be a dangerous experience for many motorists. There are still some issues to be addressed, but I hope the state and city can move forward on this essential safety improvement.”

In an October 14 letter, DOT reported that a traffic signal is warranted and the DOT would be willing to install one at no cost to the city.

The DOT report noted a combination of traffic volumes, speeds, limited sightlines and a series of eight accidents in recent years as reasons to install traffic lights at the Post Office drive.

DOT Manager of Traffic Engineering John F. Carey said, however, that a traffic light might also be necessary at nearby Brook Street. In that case, the city would be responsible for ten percent, or \$8,000, of that \$80,000 installation and for electricity to operate the signal.